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BB1167USDIV

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT (5 PAGES)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In the Application of:
SAVERIO CARL FALCO

CASE NO.: BB1167USDIV

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FEB 09 2006

APPLICATION NO.: 10/731,525

GROUP ART UNIT: 1656

FILED: DECEMBER 9, 2003

EXAMINER: NASHED, NASHAAT T.

CONFIRMATION NO.: 5315

CUSTOMER NO.: 23906

**FOR: GENES ENCODING SULFATE
ASSIMILATION PROTEINS**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed January 19, 2006, with respect to the above-identified application. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following:

Amendments to Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks and Response to Restriction Requirement begin on page 4 of this paper.